When you speak of a road connecting Perumpavur-Puttankurisu road with the Main Central Road. There too, an estimate is under preparation and a sum of Rs. 1,000 has been provided in the budget on this account.

2. As regards the early completion of the Kuruppumpadi-Kuttikal road, I may tell you that the work is in progress. Out of an estimate for Rs. 6,600, Rs. 1000 is allotted this year.

3. As regards the railway, I am noting your suggestion.

66. Communications in the Kunnatnad taluk.

MR. M. KRISHNA KAMMATHI JANARDANA KAMMATHI (*Member, Kunnatnad taluk, Group II*) observed that the Government had realised that North Travancore generally and the Kunnatnad taluk, in particular, was badly served in the matter of communications, and mentioned that the more important works were in relation to the following :—

(i) The southern portion of the Vellarapalli-Chitrapuzha road had alone been rendered fit for cart traffic. Estimates were ready but the work begun in 1100 was not continued in the current year, no funds having been provided in the budget. The work should, if possible, be taken up during the current year itself.

(ii) The road from Vallampur canal to Vittur would attain considerable importance with the opening of the Cochin harbour. No work was being carried out though an allotment had been made in the current year's budget for improvements.

(iii) Owing to repeated representations in the Assembly, some improvements had been made in the Kuruppumpadi-Kuttikkal trace. The construction of the two embankments necessary on the 2nd mile of the road would alone make the road fit for cart traffic, and that work should engage early attention.

(iv) Though lands for improving the Mamala-Piravam road were acquired so long ago as 1072, nothing had been done to this road, and the allotment for the current year had not yet been utilised. This was a result of the lack of continuity of policy. The work should be arranged to be undertaken immediately.

(v) The maintenance grant for the village road to Kizhakkambalam from the tenth mile of the Perumpavur-Puttankurisu road should be raised, as it had since been rendered fit for cart traffic. Rs. 100 a mile at least should be sanctioned.

(vi) The Porakad-Pepparakadavu road constructed by the ryots and surrendered to the Government should be taken over for departmental maintenance.

(vii) The preparation of the estimate in respect of the bridge across the Periyar near the Alwaye ferry should be expedited; and the work which had for a long time been pressed upon the attention of the Government and had been admitted to be necessary should soon be taken in hand.

(viii) The foot-path leading to Chempakasserikadavu (the only bathing ghat for the people on the eastern side of the Alwaye railway station) from the 9th mile, 7th furlong of the Perumpavur-Alwaye road should be improved. The cost would not exceed Rs. 300.

(ix) The village road leading to Chemparakki on the 7th mile of the Vengola road from the 3rd mile of the Alwaye-Kizhakkambalam road should be improved and made fit for cart traffic. It was only two miles long and half of it was even now in proper order. The improvement of this road would be very useful as the Edapalli-Muvattupuzha road joined the Kizhakkambalam road at the 3rd mile.

(x) The receipts from Mamala chowkey would indicate the importance of the western frontier road and also the volume of trade passing along it. Most of the roads resembled a furrowed field in winter. The Cochin harbour would enhance the importance of this road. The metalling of the entire road should be done at an early date.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Janardana Kamathi, as regards the first road you mention, an estimate for Rs. 10,565 has just been passed with reference to improvements to Chitrapuzha road which covers it.

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2. In regard to the second point, the canal is one of minor importance. If what you mean is a road, there is a provision of Rs. 1,000 in the budget in the current year.

3. As regards your request for the speedy completion of the Kuttikal trace, that subject was replied to when I was dealing with the subject of Mr. Padmanabha Kammathi.

4. Then, your fourth point is about improvements to the road from Mamala to Piravam. This came up as one of the items of programme for the last session of the Assembly. There is a provision of Rs. 1,500 in the current year's budget on this account.

5. Then, your fifth point relates to the increase of the maintenance grant for the 10th mile of the Puttankurisu-Kizhakkambalam road. Your request is that the maintenance be raised to Rs. 100 a mile. The Chief Engineer says that the grant has already been raised.

6. Your sixth point relates to the taking over by the Government of the Porakad-Popparakadavu road for departmental maintenance. As you know, this subject was raised by Mr. C. P. Tarakan at the last session. This road too is covered by the general orders for taking up for maintenance such roads. The orders on the subject have been issued.

7. With regard to the seventh item, *viz.*, expediting the construction of the bridge at the Alwaye ferry crossing, an estimate for this purpose is under scrutiny.

8. The other points are also receiving attention.

67. Communications in the Parur taluk.

MR. V. K. KUNJUKRISHNAN VAIDYAN (*Member, Nominated*) said that the absence of communications and other public works was a long-standing complaint of the people of Parur. Though Parur taluk was among the smallest in the State in point of area, its revenue, population, etc., were much higher than those of many others. The configuration of the land and the existence of Cochin territory adjoining several of its *pakuthies* rendered suitable means of communication essential. The taluk had not in the past received from the Government an attention adequate to the revenue derived from it.

A bridge on the Parur-Kuriyapalli road near Pallikadavu was included in a programme of urgent works in the Kottayam Division prepared sixteen years ago, but all that had yet been done, in spite of series of representations, was the collection of a few materials for the bridge. The immediate construction of the bridge, the improvement of the road from there as far as the Kuriyapalli chowkey four miles away, so as to render it fit for cart traffic, and the construction of a small bridge connecting Mutakunnam with the main land were essential in the interests of a very large section of the people. The branch road to Munambam from the Parur-Kuriyapalli road should also be improved. The construction of two culverts on the Parur-Chennamangalam road and the metalling of the unmetalled portions should be carried out. A ferry boat should be stationed at the crossing to Puttanvelikara. The reconstruction of the bridge near Kottachitapadam should be taken up early.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kunjukrishnan Vaidyan, in regard to your first two points, *viz.*, the construction of the Parur-Kuriyapalli road and Parur-Munambam road, I may say that these roads are at present fit only to be used as foot-paths. The question of their improvement and widening will be taken up as soon as the Vadakkekara bridge, now under construction, is completed.

MEMBER: Only two culverts have to be constructed. There is no other work there. The Municipality has written to the Government already in the matter that they will be able to complete the road.

DEWAN: That matter will receive consideration.

2. Then the third point relates to the construction of the Parur-Chennamangalam road. The traffic at present passing over the road does not justify any very heavy expenditure on it.

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